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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Employment Bulletin

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RHODE ISLAND EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT - FEBRUARY 1992

Overall Rhode Island nonagricultural wage and salary jobs increased for the first time since October, climbing by 600 over the month to the February level of 412,000. The monthly upturn in February's employment figure was primarily the result of education-related increases in the Service Producing sector which more than offset declines in the Goods Producing industries. Although the February job total reflected a monthly gain, it was 8,200 below the year earlier estimate of 420,200.

Employment in the Service Producing sector, estimated at 313,700 in February, advanced by 1,400 from the prior month, but decreased 1,200 compared to a year ago. Within this sector, a substantial monthly job gain (+2,800) was registered in Miscellaneous Services, mainly due to increases in private education. Overall Government employment rose by 500 in the January-February period. In contrast, Wholesale/Retail Trade and Finance, Insurance & Real Estate posted monthly job declines of 1,800 and 100, respectively. Employment in Transportation & Public Utilities was unchanged from the prior month.

The number of jobs in the Goods Producing sector dipped to 98,300 in February, reflecting a monthly decrease of 800 and an annual reduction of 7,000. Both Contract Construction and Manufacturing employment continued their downtrend in February. Construction employment, at 10,800, recorded a monthly decrease of 100, while Manufacturing employment declined by 700 to the February level of 87,500. Compared to a year ago, job losses in the former industry numbered 1,700, while those in the latter totalled 5,300. Within the factory segment, manufacturers of Durable and Nondurable goods reported downturns of 200 and 500, respectively. Monthly job gains of 100 each occurred in Jewelry-Silverware and Plastics Products. These increases were overshadowed, however, by a job decline of 300 in Leather Products along with losses of 100 each in Stone-Clay-Glass, Primary Metals, Non-electrical Machinery, Food-Beverage, Apparel and Rubber Products. Job totals in the remaining ten industries - six in Durable Goods and four in Nondurable Goods - were unchanged from their January levels.

The February work week averaged 39.6 hours, down 0.4 of an hour from January and 0.5 of an hour compared to February 1991. Production workers averaged $9.73 per hour in February, showing a decrease of one cent from both last month and year ago.

Rhode Island's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell by three-tenths of a percentage point to 7.7 percent in February from an estimated 8.0 percent in January. The state's unadjusted rate rose from 8.2 percent in January to 8.3 percent in February while the jobless total increased by 700 to the February level of 42,300. One year ago, the Rhode Island unemployment rates stood at 8.0 percent (seasonally adjusted) and 8.6 percent (unadjusted).

Nationally, the seasonally adjusted rate climbed to 7.3 percent in February, up from the month earlier estimate of 7.1 percent and the February 1991 figure of 6.5 percent. The U.S. unadjusted rate increased by one-tenth of a percentage point - from 8.0 percent in January to 8.1 percent in February. A year ago the unadjusted rate for the country was estimated at 7.2 percent.

EMPLOYER TAX CREDITS FROM RHODE ISLAND

The Targeted Jobs Tax Credit Program (TJTC) has been simplified. The Rhode Island Department of Employment and Training now offers a centralized mail-in system for the TJTC certification program. Employers can request this eligibility review process through the mail.

As an employer doing business in the state of Rhode Island, you may qualify for a federal tax credit of up to $2,400 for each new employee hired from an eligible target group. The employee must work a minimum of 90 days or 120 hours of paid employment.

Notices regarding the implementation of this mail-in program were recently sent to all Rhode Island employers. If you did not receive a packet or would like further information, contact the TJTC central unit at **277-3559.**

It's a convenient way to save federal income tax dollars and help someone who is in need of employment through job training.

.....We're working to meet your needs.....

WORKSHARING IN RHODE ISLAND...

*A number of RI employers are already participating in the **WORKSHARING** program, and more are applying everyday! If you want to learn more about this effective alternative to layoffs, call the **WORKSHARING** unit at 727-4992, and ask for Sandy Arruda.*

WORKSHARING works!

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Employment and unemployment statistics contained in this report were compiled by THE DEPT. OF EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING in cooperation with the BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, U.S. DEPT. OF LABOR. For additional information contact LABOR MARKET INFORMATION at 277-3706. TDD Voice: 277-3718.

RHODE ISLAND

Labor Force Statistics
(In Thousands)

	Feb. 1992	Jan.* 1992	Feb.* 1991	
Civilian Labor Force	511.5	507.5	507.6	
Resident Employment	469.2	465.9	464.0	
Unemployment	42.3	41.6	43.6	
Rate (Unadjusted)	8.3	8.2	8.6	
Seasonally Adjusted Rate	7.7	8.0	8.0	*Revised

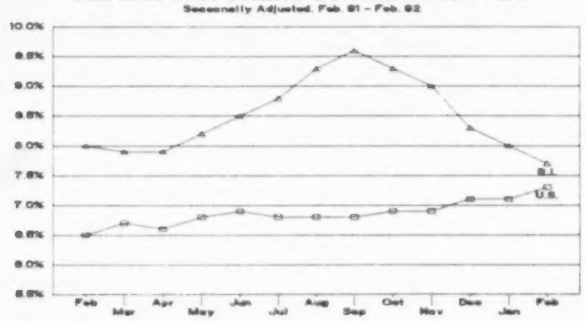
UNITED STATES

Labor Force Statistics
(In Thousands)

	Feb. 1992	Jan. 1992	Feb. 1991
Civilian Labor Force	125,386	125,072	124,070
Resident Employment	115,224	115,122	115,151
Unemployment	10,161	9,949	8,919
Rate (Unadjusted)	8.1	8.0	7.2
Seasonally Adjusted Rate	7.3	7.1	6.5

R.I. and U.S. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

Seasonally Adjusted, Feb. 91 - Feb. 92



TOTAL ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT IN RHODE ISLAND

	EMPLOYMENT (In Thousands) Feb. 1992	Jan. 1992	Feb. 1991	NET CHANGE FROM Jan. 1992	Feb. 1991
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT	412.0	411.4	420.2	+ 600	- 8200
GOODS PRODUCING	98.3	99.1	105.3	- 800	- 7000
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	10.8	10.9	12.5	- 100	- 1700
MANUFACTURING	87.5	88.2	92.8	- 700	- 5300
SERVICE PRODUCING	313.7	312.3	314.9	+ 1400	- 1200
TRANS. & PUBLIC UTILITIES	14.1	14.1	14.7	-----	- 600
TRADE (Wholesale & Retail)	84.5	86.3	87.1	- 1800	- 2600
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	25.2	25.3	26.6	- 100	- 1400
SERVICE (Miscellaneous)	128.2	125.4	123.5	+ 2800	+ 4700
GOVERNMENT	61.7	61.2	63.0	+ 500	- 1300

ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT, EARNINGS AND HOURS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN R.I.

FEBRUARY 1992

	EMPLOYMENT (In Thousands)	PRODUCTION-WORKER AVERAGES Weekly Earnings	Weekly Hours	Hourly Earnings
ALL MANUFACTURING	87.5	385.31	39.6	9.73
DURABLE MFG.	58.6	386.06	39.8	9.70
LUMBER/FURNITURE	2.3	414.96	38.0	10.92
STONE-CLAY-GLASS	1.1	422.59	37.9	11.15
PRIMARY METALS	3.4	437.25	42.7	10.24
FABRICATED METALS	7.2	350.49	38.6	9.08
NONELECTRIC MACH.	5.1	545.25	45.4	12.01
ELECTRICAL MACH.	4.6	378.65	39.9	9.49
TRANS. EQUIPMENT	6.4	503.84	41.4	12.17
INSTRUMENTS	6.2	431.59	39.2	11.01
JEWELRY-SILVERWARE	17.3	299.09	38.1	7.85
MISCELLANEOUS MFG.	5.0	367.62	39.7	9.26
NONDURABLE MFG.	28.9	385.53	39.3	9.81
FOOD-BEVERAGE	2.9	382.30	40.2	9.51
TEXTILES	7.6	371.96	41.7	8.92
APPAREL	1.1	244.60	35.5	6.89
PAPER PRODUCTS	1.8	381.19	40.9	9.32
PRINTING-PUBLISHING	5.4	404.13	30.5	13.25
CHEMICAL PRODUCTS	3.0	455.66	39.9	11.42
RUBBER PRODUCTS	0.6	433.13	38.5	11.25
PLASTICS PRODUCTS	5.1	428.63	40.9	10.48
LEATHER PRODUCTS	1.4	279.89	39.7	7.05

Farmers, Self-employed, Domestic and Armed Services personnel are excluded from the Establishment Employment figures. Current month figures are PRELIMINARY. Prior month and year figures are REVISED.